The Importance of Jamestown

The founding of Jamestown, America's first permanent English colony, in Virginia in 1607 — 13 years before the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth in Massachusetts — sparked a series of cultural encounters that helped shape the nation and the world. The government, language, customs, beliefs and aspirations of these early Virginians are all part of the United States' heritage today.

Jamestown Today

Historic Jamestowne preserves and interprets the original site of the first permanent English settlement in the New World through ongoing archaeology at the 1607 fort site, walking tours and museum exhibits featuring artifacts from Jamestown excavations. The site is jointly administered by the National Park Service and Jamestown Rediscovery on behalf of Preservation Virginia.

Jamestown Settlement is a living-history museum of 17th-century Virginia that tells the Jamestown story through film, gallery exhibits and interpretive programs in outdoor re-creations of a Powhatan Indian village, 1607 ships and 1610-14 fort. The museum is administered by the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, an educational agency of the Commonwealth of Virginia.



Historic Jamestowne

1368 Colonial Parkway Jamestown, VA 23081 (757) 856-1250 historicjamestowne.org



Colonial National Historical Park

P.O. Box 210 Yorktown, VA 23690 (757) 898-2410 nps.gov/colo

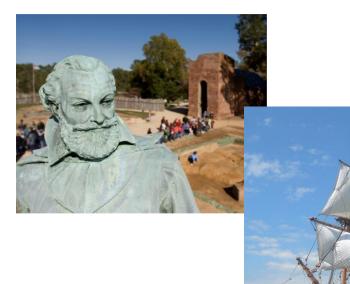


Jamestown Settlement

Route 31 South at Colonial Parkway Williamsburg, VA 23187 (757) 253-4838 or toll-free (888) 593-4682 **historyisfun.org**



A jointly sponsored event at Historic Jamestowne & Jamestown Settlement



Commemorating the 412th anniversary of the 1607 founding of Jamestown, America's first permanent English settlement.

Jamestown Settlement

Explore Museum Galleries

All Day

An introductory film and gallery exhibits, featuring artifacts and interactive displays, tell the Jamestown story in the context of the Powhatan Indian, English and African cultures that converged in the 1600s.

"TENACITY: Women in Jamestown and Early Virginia"

All Day

This yearlong special exhibition and 2019 Legacy Project explores little-known, captivating personal stories of real women in Jamestown and the early Virginia colony and their tenacious spirit and impact on a fledgling society. See rare documents and artifacts in America for the first time and interactives that bring their stories to life.

Living-History Interpretive Demonstrations

All Day

Visit the re-created Powhatan Indian village, 1607 ships and colonial fort, where costumed historical interpreters present hands-on programs and demonstrations, including cooking, navigation and matchlock musket firing.

Godspeed Sets Sail 10 a.m.

An artillery salute from the ships' pier signals the departure of the *Godspeed*, one of Jamestown Settlement's re-created ships, to demonstrate sailing maneuvers in the James River through mid-afternoon. *Ships' Pier (Weather permitting)*

Life in the James River

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Visit with our friends from the Virginia Living Museum and help them discover some of the tiniest wildlife off the ships' pier. *Ships' Pier*

The Rule of Law 11 a.m

Inside the Anglican church in Jamestown Settlement's re-created fort, learn about the various forms of governmental rule that evolved at Jamestown during the Virginia Company period that led to the formation of the first representative legislative assembly in the New World in 1619. This year marks the 400th anniversary of first General Assembly. *James Fort*

Celestial Navigation 1 p.m.

At the ships' pier, take a "noon sighting" and learn how English sailors navigated across the ocean in the 17th century. *Ships' Pier*

Defending the Colony

2 p.m.

At Jamestown, every man was also a soldier. Join in with the soldiers in the re-created fort to get first-hand training in defending the colony. *James Fort*

Comparative Fire Starting

3 p.m

Fire was a crucial tool for daily survival in the 17th century. In the re-created Powhatan Indian village, learn how an Englishman and a Powhatan would have started their fires 400 years ago. *Powhatan Indian village*

Comparative Weaponry

4 p.m.

Musket or bow, tomahawk or sword? Behind the re-created fort, historical interpreters compare and contrast 17th-century weapons of war. *Behind the Fort*

Historic Jamestowne

Explore America's Birthplace

All Day

Discover the story of Jamestown by touring the Visitor Center and the Nathalie P. and Alan M. Voorhees Archaearium Museum where you can see the new exhibit, "From Fort to Port: Legacies of 1619." Visit the Memorial Church and the new exhibit, "In the Footsteps of Democracy," and stand in the exact spot where the first General Assembly was held in 1619. Experience the archaeological site of the 1607 James Fort and New Towne.

Free Enterprise and Early Industries

All Day

Learn early industries as practiced during the early settlement period. Glassmaking will be demonstrated all day, and blacksmithing and coopering programs presented from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Hands on the Past! at the Ed Shed

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Enjoy hands-on activities, such as screening for artifacts at the Ed Shed.

"The Buried Truth"

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Meet the archaeologists at the original 1607 Fort and learn about ongoing excavations and the latest discoveries.

Native Lifeways of the Chesapeake

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Meet Daniel Firehawk Abbott of the Nanticoke people of Maryland's Eastern Shore to learn about the Tidewater Algonquians and interactions with the first settlers.

A New Life in the New World

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Learn firsthand about the trials of the first English settlers from Anas Todkill.

Meet Temperance Yeardley

10 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.

Join Lady Yeardley as she welcomes new colonists and shares the challenges of her past 10 years in Virginia.

Kid's Dig Historic Jamestowne

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

This "field work" for children will be focused around a simulated archaeology dig.

Archaeologist Walking Tour

11 a.m. & 1 p.m.

Join an archaeologist for an in-depth tour of the 1607 fort site.

Ranger Walking Tour

11:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.

Take a guided Park Ranger tour to gain unique perspectives on Jamestown history. Tours also available on May 12.

First Africans Walking Tour

2 p.m.

This walking tour of New Towne will focus on the 1619 arrival of the first Africans. Of the nine Africans listed at Jamestown by 1625, only one was identified by name – a woman named Angela, also referred to as Angelo in historical records. Recent archaeology has investigated the site where Angela lived and worked. The story of African Americans at Jamestown goes beyond 1619.

Angela's Story

3:15 p.m.

Meet one of the earliest Africans who lived on Jamestown Island as she recalls her former home in Angola and the new world she was brought to live in. Program follows the First African's Walking Tour at the benches near the Hunt Shrine.